



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

To: Members of the Elections Committee

From: Anthony Gray, Chief Returning Officer

Date: October 24, 2006

Re: Election Guidelines 2007

Attached is the draft *Election Guidelines 2007*. The proposed revisions take into account the suggestions from the community contained in the submissions received by the Elections Committee and the Committee's discussion at its October 10, 2006 meeting of the *Report of the 2006 Elections Process*. In addition, the *Guidelines* also include changes issuing from new policies and legislation, and from experience with the *Election Guidelines 2006*. In some sections, language has been revised to enhance clarity. Please note: dates for the final schedule have yet to be set.

The proposed substantive revisions to the *Guidelines* are as follows:

- Pages 7: The clause that limited the Secretary of the Governing Council's power to appoint Deputy Returning Officers as necessary has been revised.
- Page 7: Chapter III, Section 12 has been added prohibiting members of the Elections Committee who are "standing for elections, involved in ... election campaign[s] or endorsing ... candidate[s] for election" from acting as Elections Overseers;
- Pages 15—17: The schedule and guidelines have been modified to prohibit nominees from editing or altering their nomination forms after the nomination period closes;
- Page 16: The verification process has been clarified, expressly allowing good faith errors in the names of a nominee's nominators to be corrected;
- Page 16: The Guidelines now require that a statement of purpose accompany the request for personal contact information on the nomination forms;
- Pages 16: A nominee's signature on his or her nomination form signifies that the candidate and all those who work for him or her agree to abide by the provisions of the *Election Guidelines, 2007*;
- Pages 18, 25 and 31: The language around the appeals process has been clarified and tightened;
- Page 19: The distinction in the *Guidelines* between 'expectations' and 'requirements' has been made explicit;
- Page 20: The 'tangible benefits' clauses in the sections on campaign rules have been updated to include privileged email lists and contact information;

- Page 20: Ballots not provided by the CRO, in particular ballots photocopied or produced by the candidates themselves, have been expressly prohibited;
- Pages 22 and 24: The provision for a third election — in the event that a second election after a tied first election was also tied — has been removed;
- Page 30: The campaign rules around the placement of posters and the use of email lists have been updated and clarified;
- Page 32: The sense in which the details and sanction of an offence, in the event that the Overseers have determined that one occurred, are published has been clarified;
- Page 33: The list of examples of *serious* and *severe* campaign offences has been expanded to include last year's experience.

I would be happy to provide additional information on any of the proposed changes and I would also welcome suggestions from the Committee on any additional changes.